

BATH RUGBY

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF BATH RUGBY
PRICE £3.00 | VOLUME 5 ISSUE 3



BATH RUGBY VS LONDON WASPS

ZURICH PREMIERSHIP
SATURDAY
16 OCTOBER 2004
KICK-OFF 2.45pm

SPONSORS

BLACKTHORN
LTD

Virgin
mobile

northgate

Cotton
TRADERS

MATCH DAY SPONSORS

BLACKTHORN
LTD



ZURICH
PREMIERSHIP



www.zurichpremiership.com

PREMIER
RUGBY



TODAY'S TEAMS



Bath Rugby

LINEUP

LEE BEST 15
ANDREW HIGGINS 14
ROBBIE FLECK 13
MIKE TINDALL 12
BRENDON DANIEL 11

OLLY BARKLEY 10
MARTYN WOOD 9

DAVID BARNES 1
NATHAN HUMPHREYS (C) 2
DUNCAN BELL 3
STEVE BORTHWICK 4
DANNY GREWCOCK 5
ANDY BEATTIE 6
MICHAEL LIPMAN 7
ZAK FEAUNATI 8

REPLACEMENTS

NICK WALSH 16
LEE MEARS 17
MATT STEVENS 18
CHRIS MALONE 19
SPENCER DAVEY 20
JAMES SCAYSBROOK 21
ROB FIDLER 22

HEAD COACH:

John CONNOLLY



MATCH SPONSORS

BLACKTHORN CIDER

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE STEVE LANDER

TOUCH JUDGES PETER HUCKLE & PAUL EMERSON

BLACKTHORN CIDER

Cotton TRADERS

Lucozade SPORT

ZURICH PREMIERSHIP

Virgin

SPOTLIGHT LONDON WASPS



BY DOM RUMBLES

The big matches are coming thick and fast at the moment and after an epic and ultimately bruising encounter up at Welford Road last weekend, Bath Rugby have to pick themselves up once more for a massive effort against the reigning Heineken Cup and Zurich Premiership champions London Wasps.

Traditionally matches between these two sides are gripping encounters and everything is set for a real belter this afternoon. With very little love lost between the two sides you can expect this game to be every bit as ferocious and intense as the Tigers game. Last season Wasps were the only side to win at the Rec in a narrow 10-6 victory, whilst the Zurich

Premiership Final – a pulsating affair – also yielded the same scoreline with the same victors.

London Wasps, like Bath Rugby, are beginning to get into their stride after a slow start to the season. Disrupted by a plethora of injuries in the opening weeks, Warren Gatland's side have now recorded four straight wins in the competition and are returning to their best form.

As displayed in a solid performance against the Falcons last weekend, they possess both the pace and the power to hurt any side. Out wide the likes of Mark Van Gisbergen, Tom Voyce and Ed Thrower will keep the Bath Rugby back three trumvirate of Lee Best, Brendon Daniel and Andy Higgins something to think about.



Someone to think about - Mark Van Gisbergen

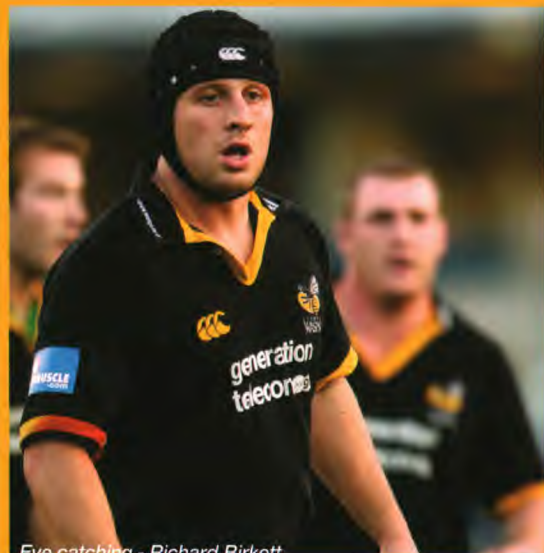
Alex King is also coming back into form and is pulling the strings in attack whilst Matt Dawson has been rejuvenated by his move to the Causeway Stadium.

Up front Wasps are as competitive as ever. Simon Shaw may still be missing but the Wasps eight have been putting in the performances. Richard Birkett in the second row is catching the eye and his battle with Steve Borthwick will be something to watch out for. Another key battle today will be in the back row. Now free of his England commitments Lawrence Dallaglio is fully concentrated on his club and has been playing well. Jonny O'Connor is a rising star at openside whose stock continues to grow with every performance, whilst

ate to stamp his authority ahead of the England autumn international series. With Michael Lipman and Andy Beattie of Bath Rugby also looking to secure an England berth, this will be a fascinating contest.

Craig Dowd is nearing his first team comeback having recovered from a nasty Achilles injury and could well be involved this afternoon having gained some match time in the Zurich A league recently. Another man who is back is big Trevor Leota. The Samoan hooker gives Wasps the 'go forward' in attack and will definitely feature this afternoon coming on for former England man Phil Greening.

Sit back and enjoy this afternoon. It promises to be a real cracker!



Eye catching - Richard Birkett